



Miami Valley Outdoor Club

November, 2010

Biking the Blue Ridge Parkway with Five Granddaughters

On Tuesday, November 2, Daytonian and outdoor adventurer Allen Johnson will be the featured speaker at the Miami Valley Outdoor Club meeting following a short business meeting at 6:30 at Wegerzyn Garden Center, 1301 E. Siebenthaler Ave., Dayton.

This past summer 74-year-old Johnson biked the 469-mile length of the Blue Ridge Parkway with five granddaughters. The 5-year old rode on a tag-along attached to Johnson's bike while the older granddaughters rode their own bikes as they pedaled 50-miles a day for 10 days. They enjoyed breathtaking mountain vistas, sparkling clear streams, abundant wildlife, sweet-smelling flowers and very little automobile traffic. Because of all the ups and downs, the total climb for the 469-mile ride is over 48,000 feet. From their 3,000-foot altitude vantage point, they could see unbroken forest both sides of the road for almost the entire length of the Parkway. Johnson and his granddaughters stopped to wade in Otter Creek; explore Mill Mountain zoo; walk through Natural Bridge rock arch; visit an Indian village and see the Biltmore Estate. On the tenth day they biked up to the highest point on the Parkway, 6053-foot altitude. The road ran downhill from there. The best part – “spending time with my granddaughters,” Johnson said.



Johnson wrote a book about the trip, the latest in a series of books he has written about true-life outdoor adventures with his grandchildren. It will be available for purchase.

Learn more about Allen Johnson and his adventures at <http://www.creative-enterprises.org>

Get Ready for the Dec. 7 Feast & Auction!

It's time to dig through your closets, basements, garages and attics for all that outdoor equipment, apparel, maps and books that you no longer need. Our annual Holiday Feast and Auction is coming up. Get ready for some great food and some real bargains. Join us Tuesday night, December 7, at Wegerzyn Garden Center. The club will provide meat and drinks; you bring a dish to share, dinner service, and your gently-used outdoor gear. Auction proceeds will go to Glen Helen's Raptor Center and the Brukner Nature Center.

Welcome New MVOC Members

Starting this month MVOC will be recognizing members who have joined for the first time. In the future we will list our newest members each month, but because this section is a first, this time around we want to welcome all the people who have joined in the last six months.

Don Achs
Kevin Achs
Amy Callahan
Jeff Dwellen
Aaron Friend
Tim Gebard
Bruce Howorth
Sue Howorth

James Lemaster
Steve Longenecker
Melanie Ludwig
Beth McBride
Albert Pamatat
John Pawlak
Ellen Schommer

Thomas Schommer Hank Trimble
David Snell Cathie Vickers
Bobbi Treadwell Patty Wheelbarger
Greg Treadwell Terry Zehr

“Get Out and Go Hike”

Every Tuesday Evening at Taylorsville MetroPark
November 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30

2101 U.S. 40 - East of Taylorsville Dam

Join Sharon Mullins and other MVOC members for this fast-paced 4+ mile hike through hilly wooded terrain. Lasts about an hour. Hike begins promptly at 4:20. Meet at the parking lot near the CCC shelter off Route 40.

There will still be a second, slower, hike at approximately 5:30 that is a DaytonHikers.org hike, but MVOC members are welcome also. Contact Sharon Mullins, 620-0887 or dmullinsvanoh@aol.com

Wednesday Afternoon Hikes at Carriage Hill

Nov. 3, 10, 17 & 24 at 3:00 p.m.

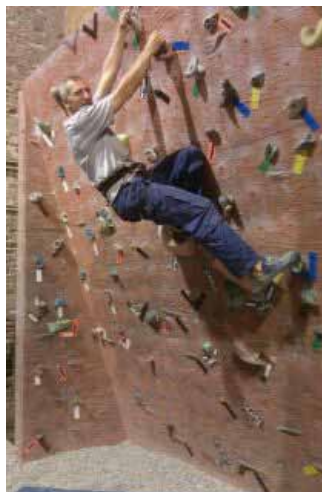
Join MVOC member Lindy McDonough for this moderately paced afternoon hike that will last 1 - 1.5 hours. We will start promptly at 3:00. The route of the hike will vary each week. Directions: Enter the park from State Route 201 (Brandt Pike) onto East Shull Rd. Meet in the parking lot at 7821 Shull Rd. near the Red Wing Shelter. Please call or email Lindy if you are coming, 278-1493 or lindymcd46@aol.com

Indoor Rock Climbing

Thursdays 6:30, November 4, 11 & 18. No climbing on Thanksgiving Day

Urban Krag Climbing
Center, 126 Clay Street,
Dayton, www.urbankrag.org.

Meet at the viewing platform at 6:30 pm. After 6:30 the person at the desk can point us out in the climbing area. Your first time in to the gym you will need to complete a belay certification which takes about 30 to 45 minutes and is a one-time charge



of \$15.00. Everyone 14 or older must complete a belay certification. If you are under the age of 14 you will need someone who is belay certified to belay for you. If you are a minor (under the age of 18) you will need to have a parent or guardian sign a waiver for you.

Cost: The total charges for a first time visit will be: Belay certification \$15.00, Daily pass \$12.00, Shoes \$4.00, Harness \$3.00. For more information or to sign up, contact Hank Trimble at hank_trimble@yahoo.com

New Membership Autumn Special

MVOC memberships run from January to December each year. If you join for the first time at the regular price during October, November or December of this year, your membership will be good through December 2011. See the website, MVOC.net for membership form.

Newsletter Deadline: November 27, 2010

Board Meeting: Thursday, November 11, 2010, 6:00 PM at Marion's on North Dixie. All are welcome.

Out and About

by Lindy McDonough

Reports about summer activities that have come my way, plus all the adventures in October add up to a lot of time in the outdoors for our MVOC members. This summer Ellis Willis backpacked for 5 days on Isle Royale, hiking 40+ miles on the Minong Ridge Trail where he saw moose and heard howling wolves. Later in the summer he backpacked 4 days to Kings Peak, the highest mountain in Utah. Bad weather kept his group from reaching the summit, but they did complete about 12,000 of the 13,528 foot climb. Still later Ellis took a 4-day trip to Wexford County, Michigan to camp and canoe on the Pine and Manistee Rivers. He has more adventures planned for late October, which we hope to hear about in the next newsletter.

Another MVOCer Ned Shepard spent almost a week in September canoe camping in the Boundary Waters Wilderness Area.

We had a good weekend for the GearFest October 1 & 2 at Eastwood Lake MetroPark. The rain held off until mid afternoon on Saturday so we had plenty of opportunity to talk to many passers-by and had more than the usual number join MVOC for the first time. Many thanks go to the volunteers who helped staff our MVOC booth - Ella Himes, Gary Mount, Jim Nies, Ned Shepard, Steve Longenecker, Hank Trimble, Tom

Schommer, Patty Wheelbarger, Sharon Mullins and David Snell.

Our weekly activities were well attended in October. Sharon Mullins' Taylorsville hikes had as many as fifteen people turn out in one day. Hank Trimble reported that the attendance for rock climbing at Urban Krag picked up in October and he plans to continue



it through the end of the year. Lindy McDonough's Englewood hikes drew a total of 13 people over the first three weeks, with several turning out all three times. One afternoon they hiked in the dried up lake bed and found a lot of freshwater clam and snail shells, and about a dozen dried up turtle shells, including one snapping turtle

skeleton. They spent some time on the far side of the lake looking for an old trail and trying to get through the dense vegetation that had grown up in the lake bed during the summer.

MVOCers Yvonne Entingh and Sharon Mullins organized the "Trail Babes" fashion show in October at Gander Mountain, hosted by the Dayton Hikers group. MVOCers Mike Nelson, Lindy McDonough and Connie and Jim Steele attended the October Backpackers Campfire meeting to hear Mike Fanelli speak about his backpacking trip "32 Countries on \$50 a Day." More recently the same four went together to see the Omnimax film "Lewis & Clark: Great Journey West" at the Cincinnati Museum Center. The film was a dramatization of the 1803-1805 quest to find a Northwest Passage from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean. The film was filled with scenes of spectacular landscapes and reenactments of the grueling trip through dangerous Indian territory, down raging river rapids and across nearly impenetrable mountain ranges.

Finally, five MVOCers, Ralph Weiss, Dwight and Donna Gehring and Ned and Marion Shepard continued our club tradition of volunteer trail maintenance by spending Saturday, October 17 working on about three quarters of a mile of birding and handicap accessible trail in Wayne National Forest, filling pot holes and clearing brush. Way to go, guys and gals!



One last photo of the Red River Gorge Backpacking September trip: From the left: Sharon, David, Barbara, Ella, Gary, John, Nat, Jenny, Jim, Hank on Hanson's Point after dinner.

- Hike for the Health of It
 Sat 11/06 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Carriage Hill
 Sat 11/13 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Huffman
 Sat 11/20 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Cox Arboretum
 Sat 11/27 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM Possum Creek

Courteous Mass Bike Ride

11/05
 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
 This Outdoor Community Calendar event is brought to you by Courteous Mass Dayton and is not a MetroParks program. Bring your bike and join a community of 'Bike-minded individuals' as they hit the streets of Dayton to promote cycling on the first Friday of every month. This group ride meets at the PNC 2nd Street Market and departs at 5:30PM. For more information visit www.facebook.com/courteousmassdayton.

Volunteer: MoMBA Trail Work Days

Sat 11/13 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM Huffman MetroPark
 Help maintain MoMBA, MetroParks' mountain bike trail. No experience necessary. Volunteers will have the opportunity to learn sustainable trail building techniques including corridor clearing, contour bench trail construction, creek armoring and more. Bring water and work gloves; tools and instruction provided. Reservations requested; walk-ins welcome. Youth 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information and to register, call (937) 277-4374 or register online.

Fundamentals of Outdoor Adventure Trip Planning

Tue 11/09 Five Rivers St. Clair Building
 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Getting properly prepared for your next outdoor excursion can seem overwhelming when you are trying to be efficient and thorough. We will teach safe and realistic experiences for getting prepared for your next outdoor trip no matter what your activity focus is. We will prepare you with field management tools, route planning, food planning, safety and hazards to be aware of before you head outside. Registration required, so please call (937) 277-4374 or register online. Fee required.

Land Navigation Basics

Sat 11/06 Twin Creek MetroPark
 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
 Are you ready for the next step in the Land Navigation progression? Get out and use map and compass together in this field-based program. Registration is required and limited, so please call (937) 277-4374. Fee required.

Also, be sure to check out the many hikes and camping adventures (both car and backpacking) at the website www.daytonhikers.org.

MVOC Officers

President:	Lindy McDonough	278-1493	lindymcd46@aol.com
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Activities:	Sharon Mullins	620-0887	dmullinsvanoh@aol.com
	Ella Himes	321-6314	ellahimes@yahoo.com
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